



Thanks to the state's Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC), New York State leads the nation in helping its seniors pay for prescription drugs. Today, more than 350,000 EPIC enrollees are saving money on the medicines they need to stay healthy.

Starting January 1, 2006, the federal government's Medicare program will also be offering prescription drug coverage. New York seniors, including those enrolled in EPIC, can use the new Medicare drug coverage for greater coverage and savings.

If you or someone you know would like more information about EPIC or how EPIC and Medicare can be used together for greater savings, please call the EPIC Helpline at 1-800-332-3742.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'George E. Pataki'.

Governor George E. Pataki

¿NECESITA AYUDA? LLAME 1-800-332-3742

A graphic designed to look like a medicine bottle. The top of the bottle has a white cap with vertical ridges. The body of the bottle is orange with a white label. The label contains the text: 'Prescribed by The State of New York', 'Take for immediate relief of high drug prices.', and 'New York State EPIC Prescription Drug Program'. At the bottom of the bottle, there are several green and purple capsules, each with the word 'EPIC' printed on it in white. The entire graphic is set against a dark background.

Prescribed by
**The State of
New York**

Take for
immediate
relief of high
drug prices.

**New York State
EPIC
Prescription Drug
Program**

If you are a New York State resident over the age of 65 with an annual income of less than \$35,000 if single and \$50,000 for couples, and not receiving full Medicaid benefits, you are eligible for EPIC.

Enrollees pay an annual fee or meet an annual deductible, depending on their income level, then pay only a co-payment between \$3 and \$20 for each prescription at a participating pharmacy in New York State. Nearly all prescription drugs are covered, both brand name and generic.

Beginning January 1, 2006, Medicare will provide prescription drug coverage through prescription drug plans. Those with Medicare will be receiving information about this important new benefit from Medicare and the Social Security Administration over the next few months.



New York State and Medicare **EPIC** Working Together

Even though Medicare will now be covering prescription drugs, EPIC will continue to exist.

Many seniors enrolled in EPIC will be able to save more by joining a Medicare drug plan. EPIC can be used to supplement their Medicare coverage and increase their savings. By using EPIC and Medicare together, seniors will pay the lowest co-payment possible and receive the prescription drugs they need.

Extra help is available with the new Medicare drug benefit for those with limited income and resources. Applications for Extra Help are available from the Social Security Administration.



For more information about EPIC or how EPIC and Medicare can be used together, please call the EPIC Helpline at 1-800-332-3742, or write:

EPIC
P.O. Box 15018
Albany, NY 12212-5018.

To apply for Extra Help, contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or visit their website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

